

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/853,602

Examiner

Gregory F. Cunningham

Applicant(s)

NIEMI, SAMI

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 9/02/2004 and RCE filed 12/01/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed 9/02/2004 and RCE filed 12/01/2004.
2. The disposition of the claims is as follows: claims 1-32 are pending in the application.
Claims 1 and 20 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 and 103

3. In view of amended independent claims, review of cited references and search for prior art, 102 and/or 103 rejections are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-32 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's amended independent claim 1 stands novel over the related prior art. For instance, while the related art of Martin et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,147,709 A), overlays the high resolution image over the perspective corrected image portion it replaces. To do so, the interactive image must have associated memory address data to retrieve the high resolution image(s). The image(s) to be inserted, once retrieved, have their insertion points matched against the insertion points of the interactive image, are manipulated as necessary and inserted into the interactive image. Once the high resolution image is matched and inserted into the interactive image, the user of the present system will be able to view the high resolution image(s) as a substitute for the lower image resolution interactive image portion overlaid. If the viewer continues to magnify the high resolution image portion, the high resolution image pixels will provide the increased resolution the viewer requests.

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However Martin et al., do not disclose “continuously zooming in on the preselected area in the presentation image, from the start of the step of continuously zooming, simultaneously downloading a detail image information data set from the storage unit, wherein said detail image information data set is used for presenting the preselected area in higher resolution than the presentation image”, as claimed in independent claims 1 and 20.

Therefore as claimed by the combined elements of amended independent claims 1 and 20, the cited references and prior art of record lack separately and in combination the elements of amended claims. Claims 2-19 and 21-32 depend from allowable independent claims 1 and 20, respectively, and therefore are also allowed.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Responses

7. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 872-9306 may be used for formal communications.

Inquiries

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory F. Cunningham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7784.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

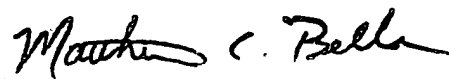


Greg Cunningham

Examiner

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5/26/2005



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